



NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

www.sbcounty.gov/Biane

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Free Seminar to Help Struggling Nonprofits

RANCHO CUCAMONGA - Nonprofit groups may find it harder to secure funds for local programs in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and other recent natural disasters that prompted an outpouring of charitable contributions to aid victims in devastated areas.

That means successful grant writing and fundraising will be more important than ever to keep essential local programs going, and the Second District's upcoming Nonprofit Resource Seminar aims to help nonprofits meet the challenge.

"It's heartwarming to know Americans will open their hearts and wallets to help during times of crisis," said Second District Supervisor Paul Biane, who began the semi-annual Nonprofit Resource Seminars after taking office in November 2002. "But we also need to make sure our local nonprofit groups can continue their important programs and provide assistance to those in need."

The free seminar, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov. 3, will feature presentations by 16 speakers on topics such as, how to run a nonprofit group like a business,

getting donors to give and keep giving, and how to work with local newspapers to better promote nonprofit programs.

Fontana Boys and Girls Club Executive Director Terrie Schneider said nonprofit groups have to work harder to find funding during this year's charitable giving season, which usually begins at the end of October and runs through the end of the year.

"We have to remind people we have needs here, too," she said.

Schneider will attend her third Nonprofit Resource Seminar on Nov. 3. During past events, she developed skills that helped her secure thousands of dollars for Fontana Boys and Girls Club programs.

"Every time you go to one of these you learn something new," Schneider said.

More than 120 people attended the Nonprofit Resource Seminar in April. Unfortunately, about 60 others were unable to come because of space restrictions. The November seminar will be held at the new Central Park Community Center in Rancho Cucamonga in order to accommodate a larger audience. The event is held in conjunction with the Resource Center for Nonprofit Management, which provides support to nonprofit groups in San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Second District nonprofit groups and those that serve District residents are given first priority for the seminar. Space is limited, and those who want to attend are urged to reserve a space online at www.sbcounty.gov/Biane or by calling (909) 945-4297 to obtain a registration packet.

Reporters can contact Schneider of the Fontana Boys and Girls Club at (909) 822-4988.